



City of Seattle

November 22, 2004

[Name]
[Organization]
[Address]
Seattle, WA [Zip]

Dear _____,

Today the City Council will adopt the 2005-2006 budget. One priority the Mayor and Council identified for the coming year is the expansion of services to meet the growing needs of our city's homeless population. \$3.2 million has been earmarked in the budget to develop additional hygiene/homeless services downtown. Providing these funds is an important step toward meeting our ultimate goal of ending homelessness in Seattle.

The City has begun preliminary planning for a new homeless services facility in the International District at 4th and Yesler. We are also conducting a review of feasible alternatives to the proposed site. This review will be concluded by January 31, 2005.

We would like to invite you to participate in this review process. We hope you will help us identify the homeless services that will provide the best assistance to homeless people, as well as review and offer guidance on alternative sites. We welcome your participation by attending the following two meetings:

- **December 7, from 4:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.** to discuss types of services desired (highest priorities), target population and possible alternative options;
- **January 13, from 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.** to discuss and review alternative sites identified by staff and offer guidance as to the feasibility of these new options.

We believe this effort will be both productive and meaningful. Your participation will be very helpful. We recognize that it is possible that no viable alternative to the current site will be identified through this process; in that case the design and construction at 4th and Yesler will proceed. However, we want to make sure our City investment yields the best possible outcomes for those who are homeless and in need in our community.

Thank you for your work and commitment to improving the lives of the most vulnerable in our city. If you would like more information about the role of the stakeholders group in this review process, please contact our offices at (206) 684-8808 (Tom) or (206) 684-0111 (Patricia). We look forward to seeing you at one or both of these meetings in the coming months.

Sincerely,

Tom Rasmussen
Seattle City Councilmember

Patricia McInturff
Director, Human Services Department

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